

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A ball tossing apparatus, comprising:

a support frame; and

a plurality of launch devices fixed to said support frame, said launch devices arranged in a two-dimensional array having at least two of said launch devices arranged along each dimension.

2. (currently amended) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said launch devices comprises:

a biasing member for projecting said a ball from said launch device; and

a release device for retaining said biasing member in a loaded position, and for releasing said biasing member to project said ball.

3. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said biasing member comprises at least one spring.

4. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said at least one launch device comprises a cylinder having a coil spring disposed therein.

5. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said at least one launch device further comprises a carrier coupled to said coil spring.

6. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein each said carrier further includes at least one engaging structure adapted to engage said release device.

7. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said carrier further includes a plurality of said engaging structures, thereby facilitating multiple loaded positions of said carrier.

8. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said at least one launch device further includes a cup, having a conical interior surface, coupled to said coil spring for carrying balls of varying diameters.

9. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said conical interior surface of said cup comprises a plurality of stepped rings.

10. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said launch devices are disposed to launch said balls substantially vertically.

11. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said support frame includes a top deck defining openings through which said balls are projected.

12. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said launch devices are disposed below said top deck at least when in a loaded position.

13. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said support frame further includes a base and sides, said base and sides together with said top deck defining an interior of said support frame, at least a portion of which is adapted for ball storage.

14. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said top deck is rectangular.

15. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a handle, coupled to said support frame, to facilitate transportation of said ball tossing apparatus.

16. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said support frame is recessed in a floor of a permanent structure.

17. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said support frame includes indicia of a baseball home plate.

18. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the position of said indicia is adjustable.

19. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 1, further including an electronic control system comprising:

a processing unit for executing data and code; and
memory for storing data and code, said code including a launch module for sequentially activating said plurality of launch devices.

20. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 19, further including a user interface for receiving input from a user.

21. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said user interface comprises a keypad.

22. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said user interface comprises a remote control, whereby said balls may be sequentially launched remotely.

23. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said launch module, responsive to instructions from a user, is operative to execute one of a plurality of predetermined launch sequences.

24. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said launch module, responsive to instructions from said user, is operative to receive and store a launch sequence input by said user.

25. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein said launch module, responsive to instructions from said user, is operative to execute said launch sequence input by said user.

26. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said code further includes a random sequence generator operative to generate a random launch sequence.

27. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein said code further includes at least one predefined launch sequence.

28. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein said code further includes a random sequence generator for generating a random launch sequence.

29. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein:
said code further comprises at least one predefined launch sequence; and
said control system further includes a user interface to enable a user to select
between a predefined launch sequence and a random launch sequence.

30. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein said user interface further enables said user to input a launch sequence.

31. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein:
said control system further includes a user input device for receiving launch
instructions from a user; and
said launch module responsive to each received launch instruction is operative to
activate a single one of said launch devices.

32. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein said launch
module responsive to each subsequently received launch instruction is operative to activate a
next one of said launch devices according to a predetermined launch sequence.

33. (original) A ball tossing apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein said launch
module responsive to each subsequently received launch instruction is operative to activate a
next one of said launch devices depending on a value of said subsequently received launch
instruction.

34. (currently amended) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls, said method comprising:

loading said plurality of balls into a corresponding plurality of launch devices arranged in a two-dimensional array having at least two of said launch devices arranged along each dimension; and

launching said balls according to a launch sequence.

35. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 34, wherein said step of loading said plurality of balls includes loading each of said balls in one of a plurality of loaded positions, each of said loaded positions corresponding to a different launch height.

36. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 34, wherein said step of launching said balls includes selecting said launch sequence.

37. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 36, wherein said step of selecting said launch sequence includes receiving said launch sequence from a user.

38. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 37, wherein said step of receiving said launch sequence from said user includes storing said launch sequence for later retrieval.

39. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 37, wherein said step of selecting said launch sequence includes generating a random launch sequence.

40. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 36, wherein said step of selecting said launch sequence includes retrieving a predefined launch sequence from a plurality of predefined launch sequences.

41. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 40, wherein said step of retrieving a predefined launch sequence from memory includes retrieving a predefined launch sequence previously input by a user.

42. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 34, wherein said step of launching said balls further includes, launching each of said balls upon receipt of a separate user input launch instruction.

43. (original) A method for sequentially launching a plurality of balls according to Claim 42, wherein said launch instructions are generated remotely.

44. (original) A method according to Claim 34, wherein said launch sequence is determined according to values of user input launch instructions received prior to the launch of each of said balls.

45. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 34.

46. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 35.

47. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 36.

48. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 37.

49. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 38.

50. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 39.

51. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 40.

52. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 41.

53. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 42.

54. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 43.

55. (original) A computer-readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the method of Claim 44.

56. (currently amended) A ball tossing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of ball launch devices arranged in a two-dimensional array having at least two of said launch devices arranged along each dimension; and
means for sequentially activating said launch devices.